[21st December 1954

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I am unable to answer why more people have not joined these co-operative societies. But I may tell the hon. Member that the co-operative organizations are doing their very best to get the handloom weavers into these societies."

SRI S. N. SOMAYAJULU :—" திருநெல்வேலியில் ஆரம்பிக்க இருக்கும் மில்லுக்கு எத்தனை பணம் செஸ் பண்டிலிருந்து கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது ? கொடுக்கப்படாவிட்டால் எப்பொழுது கொடுக்கப்படும் ? கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருந்தால் அந்த மில் எப்பொழுது ஆரம்பிக்கப்படும் ?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I would like to have notice."

Stock of foodgrains with Producers'-cum-*Consumers' Societies, Malabar.*

* 489 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the stock of foodgrains held by the Producers'-*cum*-Consumers' Co-operative Societies in Malabar district on 1st October 1954;

(*b*) how many societies have requested the Government to take over the stock and relieve them of the work of distribution of foodgrains; and

(*c*) whether the request has been granted?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) The stock of foodgrains held by the Producers'-*cum*-Consumers' Co-operative Societies in Malabar district on 1st October 1954 was 21,194 tons in terms of rice.

" (*b*) Fifty-six out of the seventy societies now under the control of the Collector of Malabar have so far applied for taking back the stocks with them and for relief from their work of foodgrains distribution.

" (*c*) The societies, which have applied for relief from their distribution work, have been permitted to close down all their ration shops in their area. So far, 21 societies have done so. The unwanted stock of rice with the Producers'-*cum*-Consumers' Societies will be taken back by the Government shortly."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" The request was made as early as in October. Now the societies are not running ration shops. Nonetheless they have to maintain the secretary and other staff because the Government are not able to take over the stock. The Co-operative department will not take charge of these societies unless the Government dues are paid. Will the Government take over the stocks immediately? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Steps are being taken to take over the stocks early."